Morse code examination has been a very important aspect of amateur radio and should be continued as requirement for HF access. As the VE team leader for a local radio club, I have found most examinees that have passed Element 1, have taken the time to actually study theory that is required for higher class licenses and follow better operating practices, instead of just memorizing the question pool like every 1 out of 2 technician class applicants that come in for a test. Morse code is a skill that can't be memorized like the question pool, and some people just don't want to spend more than the few days that it takes to memorize the question pool. This petition is biased to the fact that Element 1 should still be required for Extra Class to "protect the needed "CW" element for Amateur Radio Licensing in the most advanced and highest class of Ham License in the USA!" I feel that CW to the General and Advanced class is no less important than it is to Extra class, thus Element 1 testing should stay.

I therefore recommend that Petition RM-10784 be dismissed.

Respectfully,

Mark A. Skowronski, K9MQ